

Student Name:

Checklist and Scoring Guide for the English 8 Final Essay

*a thematic title is worth 1 point of extra credit

FIRST (INTRODUCTORY) PARAGRAPH (5 points total)

1. **INDENT and write an attention-grabbing thematic lead** sentence that relates to managing identity conflicts. It can be a question, quote, definition, or statement of truth **(1 point)**.
2. Use bridge sentences to extend the lead to the specific texts. Include the titles and authors **(1 point)**.
3. Write a brief summary of each text. Include important plot, character, and setting details about the identity conflicts **(1.5 points)**.
4. Thesis statement with two claims that compare and contrast how the characters **hide from, mask, or reject** identity but later **accept, resolve or understand identity OR FAIL to resolve** identity and the different events that trigger their decisions **(1.5 points)**.

SECOND (BODY) PARAGRAPH (14 points total) – HIDING FROM, MASKING, OR REJECTING IDENTITY

5. Indent, use a transition word, and write a topic sentence about (claim one of the thesis) how BOTH characters **hide from, mask, or reject** identity and use the word BECAUSE to give their motives or reasons **(2 points)**.
6. Use ONE SPECIFIC SCENE that shows how character one from text one **hides from, masks, or rejects** identity **(1.5 points)**.
7. Use ONE MATCHING QUOTE that shows how character one from text one **hides from, masks, or rejects** identity. Remember to integrate the quotes correctly and give citations **(2 points)**.
8. Use ONE LINE from the surprise poem to support your explanation and the reasons why character one from text one **hides from, masks, or rejects identity**. **(.5 point)**
9. **Explain the quotes and their significance in your own words. What do they show about character one from text one?** **(2 points)**.
10. Use ONE SPECIFIC SCENE that shows how character two from text two **hides from, masks, or rejects** identity **(1.5 points)**.
11. Use ONE MATCHING QUOTE that shows how character two from text two **hides from, masks, or rejects** identity. Remember to integrate the quotes correctly and give citations **(2 points)**.
12. Use ONE or TWO LINES from the surprise poem to support your explanation and the reasons why character two from text two **hides from, masks, or rejects** identity **(.5 point)**
13. **Explain the quotes and their significance in your own words. What do they show about character two from text two?** **(2 points)**.

THIRD (BODY) PARAGRAPH (14 points total) – ACCEPTING, RESOLVING, OR UNDERSTANDING IDENTITY

14. Indent, use a transition word, and write a topic sentence about (claim two of the thesis) how BOTH characters **accept or fail to accept, resolve, or understand** their identities and use the word BECAUSE to give their motives **(2 points)**.
15. Use ONE SPECIFIC SCENE that shows how character one from text one **accepts, or fails to resolve, or understand** identity **(2 points)**.
16. Use ONE MATCHING QUOTE that shows how character one from text one **accepts, or fails to resolve or understand** identity. Remember to integrate the quotes correctly and give citations **(2 points)**

Student Name:

17. Use ONE LINE from the surprise poem to support your explanation and the reasons why character one from text one **accepts, or fails to resolve or understand identity. (.5 points)**
18. **Explain the quotes and their significance in your own words. What do they show about character one from text one? (2 points).**
19. Use ONE SPECIFIC SCENE that shows how character two from text two **accepts, or fails to resolve or understand identity (2 points).**
20. Use ONE MATCHING QUOTE that shows how character two from text two **accepts, fails to resolve or understand identity. Remember to integrate the quotes correctly and give citations (2 points).**
21. Use ONE LINE from the surprise poem to support your explanation and the reasons why character two from text two **accepts, fails to resolve or understand identity. (.5 point)**
22. **Explain the quotes and their significance in your own words. What do they show about character two from text two? (2 points).**

FOURTH (CONCLUSION) PARAGRAPH (10 points total)

23. Indent, use a transition word and re-visit the THESIS STATEMENT **(1 point).**
24. Evaluate the events that cause the two characters to confront identity **(1 point).**
25. What are the SIMILAR and DIFFERENT lessons that the two characters learn from identity conflicts **(1 point).**
26. IDENTIFY and explain which CHARACTER makes better decisions about how to resolve the identity conflict **(2 points).**
27. IDENTIFY and explain which CHARACTER makes worse decisions about how to resolve the identity conflict **(2 points).**
28. Give advice based on those character decisions about how people should resolve an identity conflict. What is the best way to resolve identity conflicts? How should people resolve these issues? **(3 points).**

GRAMMAR AND MECHANICS (7 points total)

29. Avoid vague words like good, bad, things, stuff, nice, okay etc. **(2 points).**
30. Adopt a formal tone and avoid FIRST and SECOND PERSON pronouns like I, me, my, us, we, you, your, our etc. **(2 points).**
31. Correctly spell, capitalize all proper nouns (author and character names, locations and setting) and punctuate book titles **(3 points).**